

THE UNION. CITY OF WASHINGTON.

SATURDAY NIGHT, SEPT. 20, 1845.

WILLIAM GOLDEN, of Richmond, is authorized to collect moneys and receive subscriptions for the "Union" in the State of Virginia.

We have a very interesting article on hand from the Rev. George Duffield, of Detroit, of the 8th inst., on the Mineral region of Lake Superior. It will appear on Monday or Tuesday evening.

THE FOLLY OF THE WHIG PARTY.

"The gods first madden whom they would destroy." It is the doom of the whigs. How else can be explained that fatality of folly which urges the "Intelligencer" and some other whig presses (for the honor of the journalists of our country, we are glad that we cannot say all of them) into the blind and desperate course they are pursuing in opposition to the administration, in its measures for the protection of Texas? The Texian question is settled, as much as a question can be settled. Before the annexation resolution passed by the vote of Congress, they were fiercely opposed, at every step, by the whole whig force. Every difficulty growing out of the unjust claim of Mexico to a part of the Texian territory, was again and again insisted on. It was urged continually by the whig press and the whig orators, that, if the annexation took place, our government would be obliged to defend Texas up to the Rio Norte; and this, it was said, would bring us war with Mexico. Yet Congress took the responsibility, and, confident of the justice of the claim of Texas, passed the measure of annexation. The country went into canvass on the same issue, and, in the presidential election, the same verdict. Then the whigs turn right about, and abuse the administration for doing that very duty of defence, which, on the showing of the whigs themselves, was imperative and inevitable in the event of annexation. In order to defeat the passage of a certain law, the whigs announce that, if passed, it will impose a certain duty on the Executive. Congress does not deny that such will be the effect of the law, and yet passes the law. The administration goes faithfully to work to do its duty as contemplated and imposed by the law, and then straightway the whig journals fill the whole air with their "most sweet voices," as they clamor out for this very Executive action as "unwarranted by law." Why, the annexation law was passed in order that it might give warrant to the Executive to do this very thing—to protect Texas, that is, in the peaceful possession of her territory, till a final boundary could be run by the sovereign authority of our general government. The language of the whole policy of annexation, both in Congress and in the public mind, both in debates and in state papers, was this: "It behooves the interests of public law, that there should be an end of this marauding between Mexico and Texas. There is between them no war which the law of nations can recognize as such. There is no war which purports to have the color of Texian territory, or the subjugation of Texian independence, for its object. Texas is in possession of her soil to the Rio Norte, and of her national independence—and has kept possession of both—until now the great international statute of limitations, the common law of civilization—which provides that there shall be an end to the vexatious and predatory hostility of a country against its revolved province after its independence is achieved—has taken effect. Therefore, Texas shall come into the Union. We guarantee her against further war from Mexico. Mexico shall invade her no more. Henceforth negotiation—negotiation between the United States and Mexico—shall settle whatever remains to be settled. In this negotiation, we will treat Mexico as a great free state should treat a weaker neighbor. But, if, in her old quarrel with Texas—now for nine years unpropitiated—she choose to draw again the sword of subjugation, or of war in any form—then she must meet us too in the field, and the blood of the war will be on her own head."

RELEASE OF AMERICAN PRISONERS ON VAN DIEMAN'S LAND.

Thomas O. Larkin, esq., the United States consul at the port of Monterey, has transmitted a despatch to the government of this country, under date of May 30, 1845, in which he communicates intelligence that will prove intensely interesting to the friends of many of the unfortunate young men who have been so long confined by the British authorities in Van Dieman's Land, in consequence of their connexion with the well-known Canadian troubles. The substance of the information is as follows:—which Mr. Larkin received by letter and the "Polynesian" from the Sandwich Islands.

The American whaler-ship Steiglitz, belonging to Bridgeport, Conn., put into Oahu on the 27th of April last, from Hobart-town, in New South Wales, having on board TWENTY-SEVEN of these Canadian prisoners, who had previously been set at liberty by the English government. It appears that the commander of the Steiglitz, Captain Young, at his individual expense, brought these men in his vessel to Oahu, whither he had come from New South Wales, on a whaling cruise to the Northwest coast. Arrived at Oahu, he immediately apprized the Sandwich Island authorities of the fact, and requested permission for the released prisoners to remain until they could find opportunity to embark for the United States in whaler-ships, which would doubtless be the case in the course of a few months. In the mean time, Captain Young took a portion of his precious freight (ten of the late prisoners) along with him to the Northwest coast, to form part of his expedition; leaving the rest behind, under the guaranteed protection of the authorities of the Sandwich Islands. We have been politely furnished from the State Department with a copy of the correspondence which passed on this occasion between Captain Young, of the Steiglitz, and the Sandwich Minister of State for Foreign Affairs, Robert C. Wylie; and spread it before our readers, as disclosing a proceeding eminently creditable to both parties.

HOVOKU, April 28, 1845.

"Sir: I arrived here in the ship Steiglitz, under my command, having on board twenty-seven passengers, whom I brought from Hobart-town. They are Americans, who were taken prisoners, by the late and British boats, during the late Canadian troubles, but have recently been pardoned by the British government.

"They are desirous of returning to the United States, and I have given them passage to this port, whence I am bound on a whaling cruise to the Northwest coast.

"My object in addressing you, is to request for them, and in their name, permission to remain here until they have an opportunity of getting a passage to their native country, which will undoubtedly offer by whaler-ships in the course of a few months. Some of them will go with me to the Northwest coast—perhaps ten, which will be as many as I can accommodate on this vessel. The remainder I have had an opportunity of judging during the three months that I have had them on board my ship, men of quiet and orderly habits; and as I shall sail on this port on my return home, which will be in a few months, I have no objection to their taking with me all those who will not have left their native land by my arrival.

"I shall feel much obliged by an early attention to this matter, as my ship is nearly ready to proceed on her voyage.

"With respect, I remain  
"Your excellency's most obedient servant,  
"WILLIAM GOLDEN, Esq.,  
"H. M. Minister of State for Foreign Affairs."

"FOREIGN AFFAIRS, April 29, 1845.

"Sir: In reply to your letter of yesterday, I have to inform you that the government, having taken into consideration what you say and engage to perform, on behalf of the twenty-seven passengers whom you have brought to this port, have agreed to grant to such of them as you may leave behind on board, the same facilities as I have had an opportunity of judging during the three months that I have had them on board my ship, men of quiet and orderly habits; and as I shall sail on this port on my return home, which will be in a few months, I have no objection to their taking with me all those who will not have left their native land by my arrival.

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responsibility upon himself, and he has met them with great firmness and talent. The country is under great obligations to him for the efficiency and the success of his negotiations; and while the great work of the union of the two republics shall form an important era in the history of the present age, the name of Andrew J. Donelson will become intimately associated with this most remarkable and illustrious event. He has not yet entirely recovered from the indisposition which he contracted in Texas, and which pursued him to Tennessee; yet he is now convalescent, and we hope his health will be rapidly re-established.

IMPORTANT APPOINTMENT.

One of the most important—perhaps the most important—appointments which the "Union" has ever announced, is the one which we publish in this evening's paper. It is the appointment of Levi Woodbury, esq., of New Hampshire, to the bench of the Supreme Court of the United States. Endowed with that supreme tribunal is with great power, it is important to fill it with men of the proper talents, principles, and qualifications. Mr. Woodbury is eminently entitled to the honor, not merely on account of his public services, but more especially by his eminent accomplishments as a sound constitutional jurist, in the maturity of his mind and the vigor of his faculties.

The "Richmond Whig" is pleased to insinuate, that whilst we say nothing openly in the "Union" about our preference of senator in Virginia, we indicate our wishes in private letters. Let us do justice to ourselves. We know what is due to that proud State, and whilst we take the deepest interest in her destinies, we know what is due to ourselves. We have not meddled with any of her elections, in any form whatsoever; and we mean not to meddle with them. We will not mingle with appointments here or there. We have other duties to engage our attention, (grave and interesting enough they are, in all conscience) and the cabinet at Washington, and the legislature of Virginia, are amply competent to select their own officers, without our interposition.

Let us also add—that, perhaps, aside due to the present editors of the "Enquirer" as to the editor of the "Union"—that in all great matters we pretend not to advise them. They have principles and understandings of their own, to regulate their own course. The only advice which we have ever given them is, "Let the storm of abuse fall upon my head—never defend me. These attacks cannot injure me in the opinion of a virtuous people. As for yourselves, do not imitate the tone of my opponents. Preserve the dignity of the press, as becomes a gentleman; for, if editors do not treat each other as gentlemen, how can they ever expect others to do it?"

THE "CHARLESTON MERCURY" STILL PERMITS ITS WASHINGTON CORRESPONDENT TO ANNOUNCE THE OPINION OF A VIRTUOUS PEOPLE.

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OFFICIAL.

APPOINTMENT BY THE PRESIDENT.

LEVI WOODBURY, of New Hampshire, as one of the associate justices of the Supreme Court of the United States, in the place of Joseph Story, deceased.

NAVAL.

The United States brig Perry, John S. Paine, esq., commander, 30 days from Rio, anchored off the Naval Hospital yesterday morning—officers and crew all well. The following is a list of her officers: John S. Paine, esq., Captain; James M. Crossan, John A. Howell, Acting Lieutenants—H. McLaughlin, Acting Surgeon—J. D. Miller, Acting Purser—James Tilton, Midshipman—Walter W. Queen, E. E. Stone, C. M. Mitchell.

MEXICAN AFFAIRS.—We were yesterday favored with the personal of a letter from Mexico, received by the late and British boats, during the late Canadian troubles, but have recently been pardoned by the British government.

MARRIED.

At Lancaster, (Pennsylvania), on the 16th inst., by the Rev. E. Y. Buchanan, JAMES BUCHANAN LANE, esq., to MARTHA, daughter of William Jenkins, esq., all of the same city.

DIED.

At Alexandria, D. C., on Friday last, the eldest daughter of J. M. JOHNSON, postmaster of the House of Representatives of the United States, in the fourteenth year of her age.

The friends of the family are requested to attend her funeral, on Sunday morning, at 10 o'clock, from the residence of her father, on Prince street, Alexandria.

THE ZOLL-VEREIN AND THE HANSE TOWNS.

One of the longest and ablest papers which we have published in the "Union" is the following memoir from the pen of an American, who has had the best opportunities of collecting information upon the very important subject he discusses, and spared no pains to obtain the most valuable statistics upon our trade with Germany. We are not now at liberty to attach his name to his production; but we can assure the reader that in industry, integrity, and ability, no man could have undertaken this office, who is more entitled to the confidence of the American people.

We beg the reader to peruse this paper with every attention; to preserve it for a more attentive perusal; to study the statistics, which have been procured at great labor and expense; to consider the position which are founded upon his facts; to weigh them, and measure them, and estimate them at their due value. We do not attempt to anticipate their opinion by expressing our own.

The subject itself is of great importance. If our government can succeed in obtaining the admission of one of the great staples of our country on better terms, and of course in larger quantities, among a population of more than thirty millions of people, it will be of great advantage, not only to all the producing States, but also to the whole country; for, whatever enriches one great section of our Union, is calculated to extend the markets and advance the prosperity of the whole country. Admit tobacco alone (say 30,000 or 40,000 hogsheads more) upon the same moderate terms into the Zoll-Verein states, and into the Hanse Towns, as it is received into Hanover, and who would not consider it a decided advantage to the whole United States? We have no time this evening to analyze the various contents of this new and important paper, and to trace out the conclusions to which it should properly conduct us. We trust the facts which it discloses will be maturely read and properly digested; and then, we are sure that none of the readers of the "Union" will believe for one moment that we have overrated its importance, or pay a high premium to its enlightened and patriotic author than he really deserves.

BRUNNEN, June 30, 1845.

Sir: I take occasion, at the present juncture, to transmit to you some statements and remarks in relation to our trade, &c. with Germany. The "Deutsche Zoll-Verein," as you are doubtless aware, is composed of the kingdoms of Prussia, Saxony, and the Electorate of Hesse-Darmstadt; the Duchies of Baden and Hesse-Darmstadt; the Duchies of Nassau and Brunswick; the Electorate of Hesse-Cassel; the Landgraviate of Hesse-Homburg; the small states of Thuringen; the town and territory of Erfurt; and the principality of Lippe. It was established by a treaty, expressing the terms of the association, in 1833, but did not at that time embrace all the states above named. It originally comprised a population of 27,475,120 inhabitants, and an area of 1,000,000 square miles. It was enlarged by the addition of Brunswick, Frankfurt, &c., together with natural increase, the number has been augmented to 26,500,000.

The popular and declared object of this Union, is to foster the industry of the member States, and to employ in manufacturing and agriculture, by a tariff of duties on imported articles. The revenue which accrues under this system is divided among the members, respectively, in proportion to the number of their inhabitants, and to the extent of their territory. (With a slight exception in favor of Frankfurt,) without reference to their pecuniary condition.

The following table will show the receipts annually from the Zoll-Verein, at the fourth, fourth, and fifth years of its existence, and the amount of tobacco imported from the United States, and the revenue realized therefrom, since the 1st of January, 1834.

Table with 4 columns: Year, Receipts from Zoll-Verein, Tobacco imported from U.S., and Revenue realized therefrom.

An average annual yield of tobacco in Prussia is estimated at 320,000 centners, and such an amount, which pays a tax of 100 marks per centner, the latest official report was made, to 35,000 morgens, and is divided into four classes: the first, yielding, usually, nine centners to each; the second, eight; the third, seven; and the fourth, six. A half of the first-rate land, the quantity is comparatively small, being only 1,537 morgens; of the second, it amounts to 3,878; of the third, to 26,143; of the fourth, to 3,442.

In Baden, an average crop is about 175,000 centners. I passed some time at Heidelberg, adjacent to the tobacco-growing district, in the early part of last September, and made daily excursions over the various estates upon which the plant is cultivated. I observed that notwithstanding the irregularity of the yield, which is protected against that produced in the United States of America, by the existing Zoll-Verein duty.

Q. What ratio of an average crop is of the first quality?  
A. Usually about one half.

Q. What are the extremes of prices which you at present realize?  
A. From six to twenty-four Dutch guilders per centner.

Q. How many centners will a morgen produce, on an average?  
A. Of good year, the best lands will give, and the most indifferent six.

Q. Is tobacco the most profitable article that can be grown upon your plantations?  
A. Decidedly not. It is the irregularity of the yield, which is protected against that produced in the United States of America, by the existing Zoll-Verein duty.

Q. Could it be cultivated to advantage under a free trade?  
A. It could not be cultivated to advantage under a free trade.

Q. Not a centner could be raised, except that which is suitable for the markets of Spain and Holland; unless prices advance in America much above what they are at present.  
A. In the staple of Baden, as of good quality as that of ordinary Maryland for smoking?

A. No; the choicest quality of the best year's product is not worth an eighth, that of the second year is worth an eighth of a centner, or heavy American tobacco, before it is smoked.

Q. What proportion of the Baden crop is usually exported?  
A. From 30,000 to 30,000 centners, exclusive of that which is consumed by other states of the League.

Q. Does the consumption of tobacco increase in the Duchy of Baden?  
A. Every year, and rapidly. Almost every male inhabitant above 15 years of age uses either the pipe or cigar.

In Hesse-Darmstadt, an average crop, as well as I could ascertain, is about 75,000 centners. The plant here is more luxuriant growth, and the leaf is compared with that of Baden. In Bavaria, Wirttemberg, Nassau, &c., not exceeding 50,000 centners are produced; so that an entire crop, one year with another, in that part of Germany exceeds 2,000,000 centners, or 2,000,000,000 lbs. This statement is, I am persuaded, does not differ materially from the actual yield.

Taking, then, the exports to foreign countries at 30,000 centners, and there would be left for consumption in the Zoll-Verein, 2,000,000,000 lbs. each. Add to this, 500 hogsheads, imported from the West Indies, South America, &c., and it will be seen that not less than 21,500 hogsheads are required to supply the annual demand of the sines composing the "Deutsche Zoll-Verein," of three centners to every inhabitant. It is but proper for me to remark, that German tobacco is so generally deficient in strength, that 40,000 hogsheads of our staple, such as shipped to the ports on the North Sea, is of as much value, if not more, than 54,000 hogsheads of the former.

The states which continue to stand aloof from the League, are the kingdoms of Hanover and the Grand Duchy of Oldenburg, which together contain a population of 2,250,000 inhabitants, and form themselves a union for commercial purposes; the Grand Duchies of Mecklenburg-Schwerin and Mecklenburg-Strelitz, with a population of 600,000; and the Hanse Towns, which together contain a population of 300,000. Thus making the total number of inhabitants 3,150,000.

Tobacco was formerly produced in Hanover to the extent of 1,000 hogsheads annually; but it is no longer cultivated there, except in some quantities in the principality of Göttingen. The import duty on the article is 60 cents per 100 lbs. In the Mecklenburgs, it enters free, as far as the states are concerned; but a small tax is levied upon it by the States, which is imported, as has been seen, into the Zoll-Verein, the import duty is so nearly nominal, as scarcely to be deserving of mention—being in Bremen, but two-thirds of one cent; in Altona, in Hamburg, three-eighths to one-half; and in Lubeck, about the same. Thus it is, in fact, the average duty on tobacco, in the seven coast states, is not more than 40 cents per 100 lbs. I have been utterly unable to ascertain, notwithstanding my frequent inquiries for the last two years and a half, the precise quantity consumed by the Zoll-Verein; but, from the most reliable information I can obtain on the subject, it may be estimated at three pounds and a half of the product of the United States, and half a pound of other descriptions, for every individual of the Zoll-Verein, or, in other words, 3,150,000 Germans out of the Zoll-Verein purchase from us 11,025 hogsheads, the 26,500,000 in it only take 28,321 hogsheads—a fraction more over one pound per head; and while in 1844 the receipts at the Zoll-Verein, as has been seen, from the duty on the one pound of our staple consumed by each person, amounted to \$934,593, the coast states, during the same year, realized a revenue not exceeding \$44,100 from the article, notwithstanding they took from us 11,025 hogsheads, and a half for every citizen and subject belonging to them.

It is not probable that the entire abolition of duty on tobacco by the Zoll-Verein would augment consumption in the tobacco-consuming part of the Zoll-Verein articles, as now used in the coast states. Their remoteness from the seaboard—particularly Bavaria, Wirttemberg, Saxony, and Silesia—and the consequent additional cost and delay of transportation, and the diminishing demand for the article, would be a sufficient barrier to the general facility of the people to gratify their peculiar propensity for the pipe, preclude the possibility, at least for some time, (if not forever,) of such an occurrence. But I feel warranted in saying, that, if the Zoll-Verein, as has been seen, per 100 lbs., we might rely implicitly upon an immediate and almost total suspension of the cultivation of the plant; by which event we would secure, at an early period, a market for 40,000 hogsheads of tobacco, which would be a decided advantage to the Zoll-Verein, and who would not consider it a decided advantage to the whole United States? We have no time this evening to analyze the various contents of this new and important paper, and to trace out the conclusions to which it should properly conduct us. We trust the facts which it discloses will be maturely read and properly digested; and then, we are sure that none of the readers of the "Union" will believe for one moment that we have overrated its importance, or pay a high premium to its enlightened and patriotic author than he really deserves.

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Taking, then, the exports to foreign countries at 30,000 centners, and there would be left for consumption in the Zoll-Verein, 2,000,000,000 lbs. each. Add to this, 500 hogsheads, imported from the West Indies, South America, &c., and it will be seen that not less than 21,500 hogsheads are required to supply the annual demand of the sines composing the "Deutsche Zoll-Verein," of three centners to every inhabitant. It is but proper for me to remark, that German tobacco is so generally deficient in strength, that 40,000 hogsheads of our staple, such as shipped to the ports on the North Sea, is of as much value, if not more, than 54,000 hogsheads of the former.

The states which continue to stand aloof from the League, are the kingdoms of Hanover and the Grand Duchy of Oldenburg, which together contain a population of 2,250,000 inhabitants, and form themselves a union for commercial purposes; the Grand Duchies of Mecklenburg-Schwerin and Mecklenburg-Strelitz, with a population of 600,000; and the Hanse Towns, which together contain a population of 300,000. Thus making the total number of inhabitants 3,150,000.

Tobacco was formerly produced in Hanover to the extent of 1,000 hogsheads annually; but it is no longer cultivated there, except in some quantities in the principality of Göttingen. The import duty on the article is 60 cents per 100 lbs. In the Mecklenburgs, it enters free, as far as the states are concerned; but a small tax is levied upon it by the States, which is imported, as has been seen, into the Zoll-Verein, the import duty is so nearly nominal, as scarcely to be deserving of mention—being in Bremen, but two-thirds of one cent; in Altona, in Hamburg, three-eighths to one-half; and in Lubeck, about the same. Thus it is, in fact, the average duty on tobacco, in the seven coast states, is not more than 40 cents per 100 lbs. I have been utterly unable to ascertain, notwithstanding my frequent inquiries for the last two years and a half, the precise quantity consumed by the Zoll-Verein; but, from the most reliable information I can obtain on the subject, it may be estimated at three pounds and a half of the product of the United States, and half a pound of other descriptions, for every individual of the Zoll-Verein, or, in other words, 3,150,000 Germans out of the Zoll-Verein purchase from us 11,025 hogsheads, the 26,500,000 in it only take 28,321 hogsheads—a fraction more over one pound per head; and while in 1844 the receipts at the Zoll-Verein, as has been seen, from the duty on the one pound of our staple consumed by each person, amounted to \$934,593, the coast states, during the same year, realized a revenue not exceeding \$44,100 from the article, notwithstanding they took from us 11,025 hogsheads, and a half for every citizen and subject belonging to them.

It is not probable that the entire abolition of duty on tobacco by the Zoll-Verein would augment consumption in the tobacco-consuming part of the Zoll-Verein articles, as now used in the coast states. Their remoteness from the seaboard—particularly Bavaria, Wirttemberg, Saxony, and Silesia—and the consequent additional cost and delay of transportation, and the diminishing demand for the article, would be a sufficient barrier to the general facility of the people to gratify their peculiar propensity for the pipe, preclude the possibility, at least for some time, (if not forever,) of such an occurrence. But I feel warranted in saying, that, if the Zoll-Verein, as has been seen, per 100 lbs., we might rely implicitly upon an immediate and almost total suspension of the cultivation of the plant; by which event we would secure, at an early period, a market for 40,000 hogsheads of tobacco, which would be a decided advantage to the Zoll-Verein, and who would not consider it a decided advantage to the whole United States? We have no time this evening to analyze the various contents of this new and important paper, and to trace out the conclusions to which it should properly conduct us. We trust the facts which it discloses will be maturely read and properly digested; and then, we are sure that none of the readers of the "Union" will believe for one moment that we have overrated its importance, or pay a high premium to its enlightened and patriotic author than he really deserves.

BRUNNEN, June 30, 1845.

Sir: I take occasion, at the present juncture, to transmit to you some statements and remarks in relation to our trade, &c. with Germany.

The "Deutsche Zoll-Verein," as you are doubtless aware, is composed of the kingdoms of Prussia, Saxony, and the Electorate of Hesse-Darmstadt; the Duchies of Baden and Hesse-Darmstadt; the Duchies of Nassau and Brunswick; the Electorate of Hesse-Cassel; the Landgraviate of Hesse-Homburg; the small states of Thuringen; the town and territory of Erfurt; and the principality of Lippe.

It was established by a treaty, expressing the terms of the association, in 1833, but did not at that time embrace all the states above named. It originally comprised a population of 27,475,120 inhabitants, and an area of 1,000,000 square miles. It was enlarged by the addition of Brunswick, Frankfurt, &c., together with natural increase, the number has been augmented to 26,500,000.

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